

Message Text

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73-61

ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 /037 W
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R 201435Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4693

INFO AMEMBASSY MBABANE

UNCLAS GABORONE 1420

FOLLOWING TEL AMEMBASSY GABORONE SENT ACTION MBABANE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IS REPEATED TO YOU

QUOTE

UNCLAS MBABANE 1787

AIDAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: RTRTC BOTSWANA

REF : GABORONE 1402

1. OSARAC PLEASED GOB IS VIEWING TESTING SERVICE AS
IMPORTANT NATIONAL RESOURCE. IT FORTUNATE THIS RECENT
GOB AWARENESS COMING AT TIME WHEN RTRTC PRODUCT STILL CAN
BE USED TO ASSIST ESTABLISH STRONG BOTSWANA ORIENTED
TESTING CAPABILITY.

2. FY74 DRAFT PROAG PERMITS AND ENCOURAGES EACH OF FOUR
PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES TO SET NATIONAL TEST PRIORITIES AND
MODIFY NATIONAL TESTING CENTERS TO IMPLEMENT SELF DETERMINED
TEST PROGRAMS. (SEE DRAFT PROAG PG 2 SEC III PARA 1 LAST
SENTENCE AND PG. 3 LAST PARA).

3. UNDER PRESENT AND PROPOSED RTRTC PROJECT IT IS NOT RPT
NOT INTENTION TO HAVE USAID APPROVE OF INDIVIDUAL GOVERNMENTS
NATIONAL TESTING PRIORITIES NOR ENTER AGREEMENT WITH THEM
CONCERNING SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT AND ROLE OF NATIONAL TESTING
CAPABILITY EXCEPT AS SPECIFIED IN PAST AND CURRENT DRAFT
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PROAGS AND AS INFLUENCED BY U.S. CONTRACT STAFF.

4. OSARAC WELCOMES GOB SETTING DOWN SHORT/LONG RANGE OBJECTIVES IN TESTING BUT DO NOT SEE NEED OF INCORPORATING THESE INDIVIDUAL OBJECTIVES IN PROAG. IN FACT AN ANNEX SUCH AS SUGGESTED IN REFTEL WOULD FURTHER COMPLICATE THE ALREADY ENORMOUSLY DIFFICULT TASK OF PREPARING AS SINGLE DOCUMENT SATISFACTORY TO FIVE GOVERNMENTS. IF GOB HAS ANNEX ATTACHED TO PROAG WE VIEW AS LIKELY EACH OTHER COUNTRY OPTING FOR SIMILAR ANNEX AFTER LONG CAREFUL STUDY OF EACH OTHERS SUPPLEMENTARY INCLUSION. FURTHER ONE OF FOUR PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS EXTREMELY SENSITIVE AND REPORTEDLY ANXIOUS ABOUT DRAFT PROAG AS IT NOW STANDS BECAUSE OF DRIFT AWAY FROM SINGLE STRONG, COMMANDING REGIONAL INSTITUTION.

5. WE ENCOURAGE GOV PREPARE PLANS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF ITS NATIONAL TESTING CENTER BUT WE SEE NO RPT NO ADVANCE AND POSSIBILITY OF COMPLICATIONS IF DETAILED PLANS ARE INCLUDED AS PART OF OVERALL AGREEMENT AT THIS STAGE. IF PROJECT WITH NATIONAL RATHER THAN REGIONAL FLAVOR WERE JUST BEGINNING INSTEAD OF BEING IN LAST 18 MONTHS PROJECT LIFE THEN THE INCLUSION OF A COUNTRY'S DETAILED PLANS AND PRIORITIES CERTAINLY WOULD BE THE CORE OF PROAG.

6. WARD, MCDONOUGH HAD TENTATIVE PLAN TO TRAVEL TO GABORONE WEEK SEPT 24, WARD TO SIGN FY 74 PROAGS PROVIDING SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDS FOR MCH/FP AND OPEX PROJECTS AND MCKONOUGH TO NEGOTIATE SIGNING OF RTRTC PROAG. IN LIGHT REFTEL NOW SUGGEST WARD/MCDONOUGH ARRIVE GABORONE SEPT 26 TO ACCOMPLISH ABOVE OBJECTIVES, IF ACCEPTABLE, REQUEST MAKE NECESSARY APPTS AND RESERVATIONS TWO SWB AT HOLIDAY INN. ADVISE.

7. SUGGEST REFTEL BE REPEATED TO AID/W. IT PROVIDES INTERESTING BACKGROUND ON INFLUENCE, IMPACT ONE OF OUR PROJECTS. SPICER UNQUOTE.
NELSON

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NNN

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